

B1 continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 08/394,234, filed February 22, 1995, now abandoned.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

1. (Twice Amended) A satellite signal distribution system for distributing television program signals to satellite receivers having a predetermined receive frequency range, the system comprising:

B2
WJ a satellite dish that receives first and second blocks of polarized television program signals from at least one satellite, said first block comprising a first plurality of television program signals received from the satellite, the second block comprising a second plurality of television program signals received from the satellite;

a first frequency converter coupled to the satellite dish, the first frequency converter converting at least the first block comprising the first plurality of television program signals received from the satellite to a frequency range that is at least partially outside of the satellite receive frequency range, the first frequency converter applying said converted first block comprising said first plurality of television program signals simultaneously with the second block comprising the second plurality of television program signals received from the satellite onto a single coaxial distribution cable to enable two different and distinct blocks of television program signals received from the

satellite to be stacked onto the cable and distributed simultaneously over said single coaxial cable;

a second frequency converter coupled to the coaxial cable, the second frequency converter further converting said converted first block comprising the first plurality of television signals to a further frequency range that is within the satellite receiver frequency range;

wherein said second frequency converter performs a frequency down-conversion and wherein all of the television program signals within the first block comprising the first plurality of television program signals are received by the satellite dish with a common polarization.

7. (Amended) In a satellite distribution system that distributes received satellite signals to satellite receiver equipment through a distribution cable, said satellite receiver equipment producing a control signal, said satellite distribution system further comprising:

an arrangement coupled between the distribution cable and the satellite receiver, said arrangement including a block converter that frequency-converts a channel block carried by the distribution cable so it can be decoded by said satellite equipment, wherein the output of said block converter is a block of plural channels, said arrangement further including an electrically operated polarity switch coupled to said block converter, said polarity switch operating to select between said frequency-converted channel block and

B3
unclassified
at least one further channel block carried by said distribution cable for application to said satellite receiver in response to said control signal produced by said satellite receiver.

8. (Unamended) A system for distributing received satellite signals via a distribution cable to at least one satellite receiver, said satellite receiver having a frequency range and being coupled to a second end of said distribution cable, said distribution cable also having a first end, said system including:

a satellite dish that receives a first block of plural channels of a first polarization and a second block of plural channels of a second polarization;

a frequency converter coupled to at least said received first block of plural channels, said frequency converter converting at least said first channel block to a frequency band that is at least partially outside of the satellite receiver frequency range;

a combining arrangement coupled to said distribution cable first end, said combining arrangement simultaneously applying said frequency-converted first channel block and said second channel block to said first end of said distribution cable;

a further frequency converter connected to said distribution cable second end, said further frequency converter frequency-converting said first channel block to provide a block of plural channels within the frequency range of said satellite receiver; and

a switch adapted to operate under control of said satellite receiver, said switch switching between said first channel block and said second channel block for application to said satellite receiver.

9. (Unamended) The system of claim 8 wherein said further frequency converter comprises a down-converter that down-converts said first channel block to a lower frequency range.

10. (Unamended) The system of claim 8 wherein said first-mentioned frequency converter comprises an up-converter that up-converts said first frequency block to a higher frequency for application to said distribution cable.

11. (Unamended) The system of claim 8 wherein said switch comprises an electrically operated switch.

12. (Unamended) The system of claim 8 wherein said first polarization is different from said second polarization.